

An ordinance creating a policy regarding dogs within the municipality of Hedgesville

## Chapter 1 – Disposal of Carcasses

### Section 1-101

It shall be unlawful for any person to cast or put any dead or dying animal or fowl found on any premises in this Town, upon any premises belonging to or occupied by any other person, or upon any street, alley, or public place.

### Section 1 – 102 Transportation of carcasses

It shall be unlawful for any person to expose, transport, or move any part or all of the carcass of any animal or fowl upon any street, sidewalk, or public place within the Town unless such carcass shall be completely covered from public view and from access of flies, or other disease-carrying insects, by a heavy cloth or other suitable covering.

## Chapter 2 – Dogs

### Section 1 – 103 Annual head tax imposed, amount of tax, and when and to whom payable

- (a) Every person who owns or keeps within the town a dog over the age of six months shall pay an annual head tax of \$3.00 for each dog, payable to Berkeley County; maximum of three dogs per household.
- (b) The taxes imposed by this section shall be paid on or before the first day of July of each year to the assessor of Berkeley County or to one of his deputies, provided, that when a person becomes the owner of a dog which is six months or more of age, or when a dog owned or kept within the Town attains the age of six months, such owner or keeper shall pay the tax imposed by this section at the time of acquisition of such dog, or at the time such dog attains the age of six months, as the case may be.

### Section 1 – 104 Registration tag to be worn

Each owner or keeper of a dog within the Town shall cause such dog to wear a suitable collar or harness, to which shall be securely attached the current year's registration tag of such dog.

### Section 1 – 105 Prohibited running at large, limitation on dogs being in stores, etc.

No owner or keeper of a dog within the Town shall permit such dog to run at large, or to enter any store or other place where goods, merchandise, food stuffs, or other commodities are sold, exchanged, exposed, or offered for sale or exchange, and it shall be the duty of the owner and occupant of such store or other place to cause such dog so entering to be expelled therefrom immediately, but this provision shall not apply to service animals held on leash.

Section 1 – 106 Impoundment and disposition of dogs found running at large

Dogs found running at large within the Town shall be subject to impoundment and disposition.

Section 1 – 107 Yelping, howling, etc., to annoyance of neighborhood

No person shall harbor or keep any dog that by loud and frequent or habitual barking, yelping, or howling shall cause serious annoyance to the neighborhood or to people passing upon the street.

Section 1 – 108 Mad dogs, proclamation of Mayor that muzzles be worn, impoundment of unmuzzled dogs during period of proclamation

Whenever it shall appear to the Mayor that there is good reason to believe that any dog within the town is mad, it shall be his or her duty to issue his or her proclamation requiring that all dogs within the town shall, for a period named in such proclamation, wear a good substantial muzzle, so securely put on as to prevent any such dog from biting. If any such dog shall be found in the town during such period without wearing a muzzle, such dog shall be impounded, and moreover, such dog shall not be delivered to anyone until so muzzled, provided, that if there is a reason to believe that any dog is mad, or has been bitten by a mad dog, then it shall be the option of any officer of the Town immediately to kill or cause such dog to be killed and buried or examined.

Section 1-109 Enforcement of ordinance

Any officer of the Town shall reserve the right to monitor any situation in order to enforce this ordinance.

Section 1 – 110 Penalty

If any violation is not corrected within ten (10) days, a fine of \$25 a day will be levied against the violator. The fine for a second violation will be \$50 a day.

Severability

If any provisions of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held unconstitutional or invalid, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this ordinance and, to this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

Passed through first reading this  
Seventh day of May, 2003

Passed through second reading this

4<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2003

Mary Beth Good  
/s/ Mayor

ATTEST

Ronnie T. Good  
/s/ Recorder